

## MEMORANDUM

To: Tenmile South Helena Forest Restoration Committee, City of Helena, public, and media

From: Ecosystem Research Group

Date: March 8, 2016

Re: Agenda for the Wednesday, March 9, 2016 Tenmile South Helena Forest Restoration Collaborative Committee meeting from 12:00 to 5:00 PM in Room 326 of the City – County Building.

Presenter	Topic(s)	Information/ Decision	Objective(s)
Chairman Cohenour	Welcome, introductions, disclose recording of meeting, explain public comment procedure, approve meeting notes	Decision	Welcome. Committee members and attendees introduce themselves. Chairman discloses that the meeting is being recorded and explains the public comment procedure. Committee amends and/or approves meeting notes.
Chairman Cohenour	Public comment on the Committee's compiled comments on the DEIS	Information	Collaborative Committee listens to public comments on the Committee's compiled comments.
Ben Irely	Committee's consensus process check	Decision	Committee discusses how the process of consensus is going and modifies approach, if necessary.
Chairman Cohenour	Request to extend comment period for DEIS	Information	Committee discusses if they will ask the Forest Service to extend the comment period on the DEIS.
Ben Irely	Test consensus on Committee comments regarding DEIS	Decision	Test consensus on all of the Committee comments regarding the DEIS.
Ben Irely	Break into groups to redraft comments that did not gain consensus	Information	Redraft comments that did not achieve consensus with input from dissenters.
Ben Irely	Test consensus on redrafted comments	Decision	Test consensus on redrafted comments.
Chairman Cohenour	Request to extend comment period on DEIS, meeting schedule	Decision	Committee decides if they want to request an extension and decides on a meeting schedule.
Chairman Cohenour	Meeting schedule, request for extension, public comment, meeting closeout, upcoming events	Information	Allow time for the public to comment on Committee business. Discuss upcoming events pertinent to Committee
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## **TENMILE SOUTH HELENA FOREST RESTORATION COLLABORATIVE COMMITTEE CONSENSUS-BASED DECISIONS AND GROUND RULES AGREEMENT**

### **Consensus-based Decisions**

The Tenmile South Helena Forest Restoration Collaborative Committee will work by consensus to reach decisions and to develop recommendations for restoration projects within the project area. Consensus can be tested by asking Committee members how they feel about a particular decision or recommendation according to the following statements:

1. “I can say I **wholeheartedly agree** with the decision.”
2. “I find the decision **perfectly acceptable**. It is the best option available to the Committee.”
3. “I can **support** the decision, although I am not especially enthusiastic about it.”
4. “I do not fully agree with the decision and need to register my view about it. However, I do not choose to block the decision. **I am willing to support the decision** because I trust the wisdom of the group.”
5. “I do not agree with the decision and feel the need to **block** the decision from being accepted as consensus.”
6. “I feel we have no clear sense of unity in the group. We need to **do more work before consensus can be achieved.**”

**Consensus is achieved if all Committee members present indicate that they are at levels 1 through 4. A quorum of Committee members is required to achieve consensus.**

When consensus is tested and a Committee member is at level 5 or 6, that person must clearly articulate his or her concern to the larger group, and if possible, work to develop a solution and present that solution to the Committee for the Committee’s consideration. The Committee may continue with this procedure until consensus is achieved or the Committee can decide to not move forward with a particular decision or recommendation.

If consensus is not achieved for a particular recommendation, the recommendation can still be forwarded to the agency with the proposed project and the level of consensus will be noted (e.g. consensus minus one recreation representative).

### **Meeting Ground Rules**

The Committee is committed to working within the following meeting ground rules, demonstrating respect for each other by:

- Listening actively,
- Listening honorably and respecting each other,
- Giving the other person permission to openly speak his or her mind,
- Avoiding attacking remarks, name calling, etc.,
- Not interrupting,
- Not conducting side conversations.

Contact the Tenmile South Helena Forest Restoration Collaborative Committee at: [tenmilecollaborative@helenamt.gov](mailto:tenmilecollaborative@helenamt.gov)